

my story, and then she told me her own. As ambassador, she was deeply impressed with an officer in the U.S. military with whom she had been working. She asked if she could call the officer's parents to express, as ambassador, her gratitude and that of the Nation, for the outstanding work the officer had been doing. Ambassador Ware reached the officer's father. During the discussion, the father asked again what the ambassador's name was and if Marilyn was the daughter of Congressman John Ware. Ambassador Ware replied yes. The father went on to explain how it was Congressman Ware who had given his son his academy nomination many years before. Her story highlighted the full circle of a family committed to public service—a cherished trait that continues in her family today.

There are so many causes that Ambassador Ware championed, so many to talk about: AEI, her work with sustainable clean water, caring for children with learning disabilities at the Janus School, and the Clinic for Special Children, and of course, The Phoenix, which you can't think about without seeing that twinkle in her eye, along with countless others.

She made our country a better, stronger place. Ambassador Ware will not only be remembered by her friends and family but by those whose lives she bettered along the way. I will miss her leadership and guidance and will always remember the amazing work Ambassador Ware did for our community and our country.

Ambassador Ware, and to her family, we are forever grateful.

#### 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE 1868 TREATY OF FORT LARAMIE

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the passage of time and a particularly significant event in this Nation's history. In a few short days, Tribal leadership, historians, community leaders, and the public will gather at the Fort Laramie National Historic Site in Wyoming to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the signing of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie. As it did in the years preceding the signing of the treaty, the area around Fort Laramie, WY, will again serve as a place where cultures, minds, and governments meet.

Over its history, the Fort Laramie area was home to Tribes of the Great Plains, represented a waypoint for emigrants as they traveled West, and became an economic center as trade routes were established. As conflict among Indian and non-Indian groups grew, Fort Laramie became a military post to quell disputes.

History is marred by the years-long conflicts with Tribal communities. The 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie and others like it were intended to bring peace to whole regions of peoples. It took nearly 7 months to negotiate the contents of

the treaty and gather signatories. Among the more than 200 signatories were Tribal leaders, U.S. Government officials, and military leaders. It is important to recognize and remember those who signed in the hope that the treaty would bring resolution to ongoing conflicts. Equally, we should reflect on those who did not sign, as that omission is an important part of this history.

Despite the signing of the treaty, conflict persisted. Today we must continue to work to address the inequities that remain across Indian Country. As those signatories of the treaty knew in 1868, treaties and the trust responsibilities to which the U.S. Government committed continue to shape modern relationships with the sovereign Tribes. True government-to-government relationships and respect for Tribal sovereignty are at the heart of Congress's responsibilities in helping to ensure a brighter future for Tribal communities.

As they gather at Fort Laramie at the end of April, Tribes will share their histories and cultures. Among the exchange of traditional prayers, songs, and dances, Tribes will also lead discussions about the future of Tribal sovereignty and treaty rights.

In the joint resolution passed during this year's session, the Wyoming State Legislature appropriately recognized that "... the legacy of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie has had an impact in numerous ways on the lives of Tribal members of Tribes party to the Treaty from generation to generation since the signing. . . ."

Recognizing the 150th anniversary of the signing of the treaty requires reflection and introspection, but should also inspire hope for the future. The upcoming events at Fort Laramie National Historic Site offer a unique educational opportunity to highlight the vibrant Tribal cultures that have also endured for generations.

I am proud to recognize this important anniversary and reflect on the 150 years since the signing of the Treaty of Fort Laramie. Historic places and the documents inspired by a confluence of values and ideas should not be forgotten. We must remember the events that led to the signing of the treaty, and those that followed, and continue the important work to develop strong relationships and be good partners with sovereign Tribal nations.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING EDWARD J. CERNIC, SR.

• Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Edward J. Cernic, Sr., a beloved father, grandfather, husband, politician, and member of his community in Johnstown, Cambria County, PA. Affectionately known as "Pap," Ed dedicated his life to his family and community. Ed passed away on March 21, 2018, at the age of 85.

Ed believed in the importance of civic duty and touched countless lives in his hometown of Tanneryville, near Johnstown. He cared deeply about his community and was a powerful advocate for his region, especially in times of turmoil. In the aftermath of the 1977 Johnstown Flood, a disaster which took 84 lives in Cambria County, Ed headed the Tanneryville Flood Recovery Association and raised more than \$100,000 in recovery funds. He was a leader in an effort that took 17 busloads of people to Washington, DC to advocate for Federal flood relief funding. He even maneuvered a meeting with President Jimmy Carter after slipping a note to first lady Rosalyn Carter during a campaign stop in Johnstown. Their brief sit-down resulted in Federal support for the entire city. That was the kind of leader that Ed was: an honorable man with a big heart, who always put his community first.

Ed was a natural and successful businessman, founding several businesses that made Cernic a brand name throughout the region. He was proud to be able to create jobs in his community.

He was a major force in local and State politics and a dedicated champion for transportation and infrastructure projects in Cambria County. In a region that has faced many challenges, he was a man of action who courageously fought to push the community forward. Though well-known for his friendships with Democratic public officials and political candidates, Ed never hesitated to reach across the aisle to help the community and was highly respected by members of both parties. Ed served as chairman of the Greater Johnstown Water Authority and commissioner of the Pennsylvania State Transportation Commission. He participated in many other local nonprofit and charitable organizations.

Ed's impact on his community is most evident at his famous, annual summer picnic at Cernic's Picnic Grove. Ed had a unique ability to gather people from far and wide—elected officials, political candidates, business leaders, and community leaders—to celebrate and show their support for the people of Cambria County. This yearly gathering exemplifies Ed's contributions to the State and local community, as well as what he valued most: family, friends, and his beloved hometown.

Ed's legacy will endure in the jobs he created, the communities he supported, and the people he served. Johnstown and Cambria County had no stronger champion. As a Pennsylvanian and as a friend of Ed and his family, I will miss his generous spirit and his passion for helping the people of his home county. We extend our condolences to Ed Cernic, Jr., and the Cernic family. •

#### TRIBUTE TO PENNY REDLI

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week, I have the honor of recognizing